



**NEWS ADVISORY**

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**SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK SERVING THE NEEDS OF THE HUNGRY THIS  
THANKSGIVING THROUGH ERIE'S RICK HINMAN'S  
THANKSGIVING DINNER DRIVE PROGRAM**

November 2019 – (Erie, Pennsylvania) For the last three decades, Rick Hinman's Thanksgiving Dinner Drive (The Turkey Man Project) has become an integral part of the Thanksgiving holiday for many families in Erie. Second Harvest is continuing the tradition with leaders Rick Hinman's Thanksgiving Dinner Drive leaders from Erie Insurance, Charles and Penny Spacht, to acquire donated and purchased food to fill 3,000 Thanksgiving dinner boxes for those in need.

"No matter your religion, nationality or economic situation, Thanksgiving is something that we can all celebrate," said Charles Spacht. "We want to give thanks for what we have and support those who are in need."

The Rick Hinman's Thanksgiving Dinner Drive began as the Turkey Man Project in 1986 when Erie Insurance employee, Rick Hinman, helped one family to celebrate Thanksgiving with a holiday meal. The project and has grown significantly since that time to provide thousands of Thanksgiving meals over the course of 30 years.

Erie Insurance staff and families will volunteer their time to pack and deliver the dinner boxes from the Second Harvest's warehouse (1507 Grimm Dr.) to area food pantries and other hunger relief organizations that are serving pre-registered individuals and families in need this holiday season.

“We are so grateful to the Turkey Man organizers, contributors and the volunteers who work tirelessly this time of year to feed the hungry,” said Karen Seggi, CEO of Second Harvest.

- **Video Note: Holiday box packing will take place at Second Harvest’s warehouse on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
- **Holiday Meal Box Delivery will take place November 21<sup>st</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> from Second Harvest to member food pantries. The trucks will be loaded and leave Second Harvest at the following times:**
  - Thursday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> loading the truck starts at 7:00AM and will take about 30 minutes**
  - Saturday, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> loading the truck starts at 7:30AM and will take about 30 minutes**
  - Monday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> loading the truck starts at 7:00AM and will take about 30 minutes**
- **AGENCIES AND TIMES WHEN BOXES ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED:**
  - **Thursday, Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> St. Martins Center, 1701 Parade St, Erie, PA 16503 at 10:00AM-12:00PM and 1:00PM-3:00PM**
  - **Saturday, Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> Bethany Outreach Center, 254 E 10th St, Erie, PA 16503 at 8:00AM**
  - **Monday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> Cathedral of St. Paul, 134 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16501 at 8:00AM-9:30AM**
- **Note: Rick Hinman will be present for the packing of the boxes on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, and for the loading of the truck at Second Harvest on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> and on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

*About the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania*

The mission of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest Pennsylvania is to provide food to those in need within 11 counties of northwest Pennsylvania while creating awareness and educating the community on the realities of hunger. Second Harvest provides food to 399 member agencies and distribution partners throughout the 11 counties of northwest Pennsylvania. These organizations include food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, Produce Express mobile distributions, Military Share – a Produce Express Program, School Pantries, Backpack Programs and Senior Box distribution sites. In the most recent year, Second Harvest has distributed 9.2 million meals to individuals in need. Second Harvest serves the following 11 counties in northwest Pennsylvania: Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, McKean, Venango and Warren.